

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

1 A telecommunications system has a source base station (BS_S) and a destination
2 base station (BS_D), and a handover unit (100) having a dynamic offset threshold
3 determination unit (102) which establishes a dynamic offset threshold for starting soft
4 handover. When the dynamic offset threshold for soft handover is exceeded, a
5 preliminary portion of a handover sequence is initiated at the destination base station.
6 The preliminary portion of the handover sequence is initiated so that time-critical
7 handover sequence activities (such as L1 uplink synchronization) are well underway, if
8 not completed, by the time the soft handover is actually needed.
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